

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Response, claims 1-29 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1, 11, 18, and 25 have been amended. Applicant requests reconsideration of the pending claims in view of the following remarks.

In item 1 of the Office Action, the drawings have been objected to for the formalities noted. A replacement sheet is attached hereto that includes corrections as well as an annotated sheet showing the corrections made. Specifically, the number "216" of FIG. 2A was changed to "213". Accordingly, Applicant requests that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

In item 2 of the Office Action, claims 1, 6-9, 11, 16-18, and 23-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,369,909 issued to Shima (hereafter "Shima"). Anticipation under §102 "requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claim under construction. *W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc. v. Garlock, Inc.*, 220 USPQ 303, 313 (Fed. Cir. 1983). Claims 1, 11, 18, and 25 have been amended herein. In view of the amendments to these claims, Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 1, 6-9, 11, 16-18, and 23-25 be withdrawn.

To begin, claim 11 recites as follows:

11. A system for brokered rendering, comprising:
 - a processor circuit having a processor and a memory;
 - a rendering request stored in the memory, the rendering request including a document embodied in a non-rendered format, the rendering request being received from a remote device and requesting a conversion of the document embodied in the non-rendered format into a rendered format; and
 - a rendering broker stored in the memory and executable by the processor, the rendering broker comprising:
 - logic that examines the document embodied in the non-rendered format to identify at least one rendering operation to be performed to convert the document into the rendered format to be employed in printing the document;
 - logic that identifies at least one rendering application capable of performing the at least one rendering operation;
 - logic that applies the document to the at least one rendering application to implement the at least one rendering operation; and
 - logic that transmits the document embodied in the rendered format back to the remote device, the document embodied in the rendered format being received from the at least one rendering application.

In this respect, claim 11 reflects the fact that a rendering request is stored in the memory, where the rendering request includes a document that is embodied in the non-rendered format, and the rendering request having been received from a remote device that requests a conversion of the document embodied in a non-rendered format into a rendered format. Also, when the document has been rendered having been applied to at least one rendering operation, the system as set forth in claim 11 as amended includes logic that transmits the document embodied in the rendered format back to the remote device. In this respect, the document embodied in the rendered format was received from the at least one rendering application.

Applicant asserts that Shima fails to show or suggest at least the elements as recited above in claim 11 as amended. Specifically, the printers of Shima receive documents to be printed and ultimately print the documents themselves. Necessary rendering functions are performed by the various printers as described by Shima. The document is not transmitted back to the remote device from which it was sent in the first place as it is ultimately printed by one of the printers. This is because Shima only contemplates the scenario where a nonprinting device transmits a document to the network printers as described for printing. In this sense, the transmitting device is not a print client as set forth in the present application. In this respect, Shima teaches away from the present invention as set forth in claim 11. Specifically, the rendering broker of the present application and as set forth in claim 11 is configured to perform rendering operations that print clients are incapable of performing. The rendered documents are transmitted back to the print clients for printing after the rendering is performed.

Accordingly, Applicant asserts that Shima fails to show or suggest each of the elements of claim 11 as amended. In addition, Applicant asserts that Shima fails to show or suggest each of the elements of claims 1, 18, and 25 to the extent that they incorporate subject matter similar in scope with that of claim 11. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 1, 11, 18, and 25 as amended be withdrawn. In addition, Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 6-9, 16, 17, 23, and 24 be withdrawn as depending from claims 1, 11, 18, and 25.

In addition, in item 3 of the Office Action, claims 2-5, 10, 12-15, 19-22, and 26-29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shima. A prima facie case of obviousness is established only when the prior art

teaches or suggests all of the elements of the claims. MPEP 2143.03, In re Rijckaert, 9 F.3d 1531, 28 U.S.P.Q2d 1955, 1956 (Fed. Cir. 1993). Applicant notes that claims 2-5, 10, 12-15, 19-22, and 26-29 ultimately depend from claims 1, 11, 18, or 25. Accordingly, Applicant asserts that each of the elements of these claims is not shown or suggested by Shima for the same reasons described above. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 2-5, 10, 12-15, 19-22, and 26-29 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that all outstanding objections and rejections be withdrawn and that this application and all presently pending claims be allowed to issue. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding Applicants' response, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone Applicants' undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,



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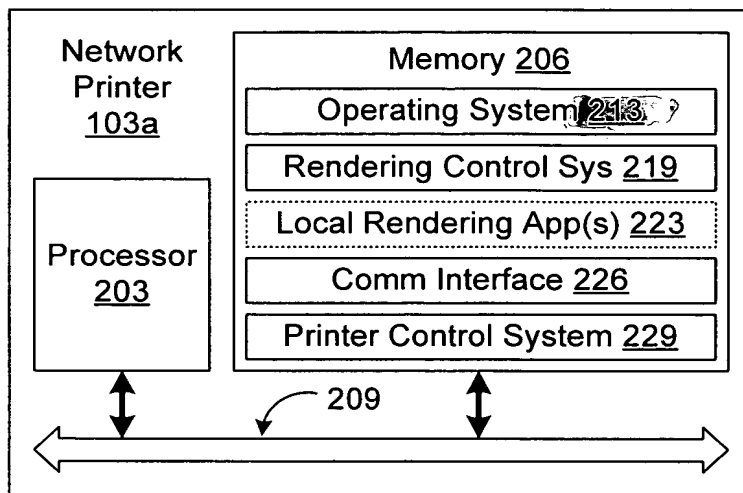


FIG. 2A

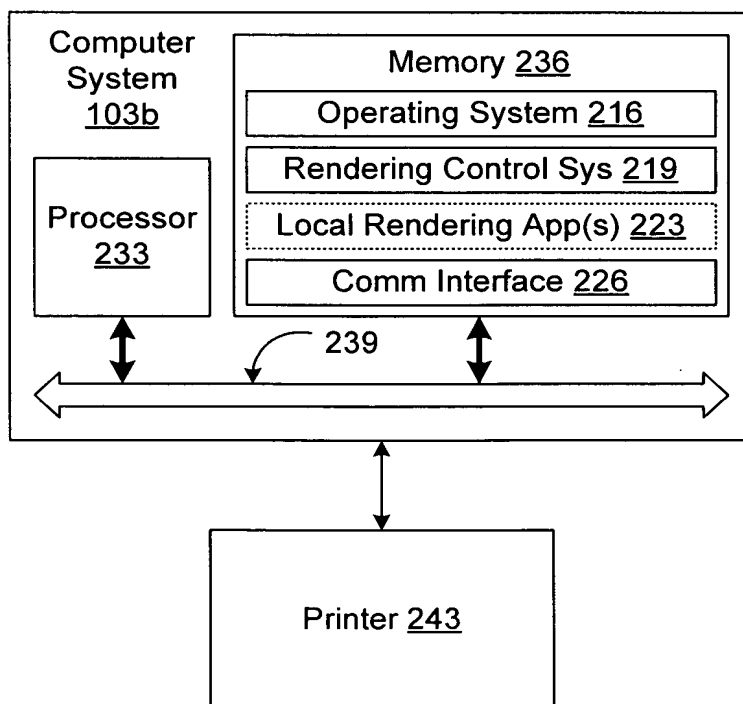


FIG. 2B